

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 DRC-01 /057 W

----- 032950

R 192115Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5775

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 1472

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT TD

SUBJECT: NOMINATIONS FOR PNM LEADERSHIP

REF: POS 1411

1. ON NOVEMBER 18 GENERAL COUNCIL OF RULING PEOPLES NATIONAL MOVEMENT MET TO ACCEPT NOMINATIONS FROM PARTY GROUPS FOR PARTY POLITICAL LEADER. KARL HUDSON-PHILLIPS RECEIVED 224 PARTY GROUP NOMINATIONS AS AGAINST 26 FOR KAMALUDDIN MOHAMMED. A RESOLUTION TO AGAIN ASK DR. WILLIAMS (WHO DID NOT ATTEND) TO REMAIN AS POLITICAL LEADER REPORTEDLY FAILED 34 TO 32 WITH MANY ABSTENTIONS. THE COUNCIL ANNOUNCED THE RECONVENING OF THE CONVENTION FOR DECEMBER 2 TO ELECT NEW OFFICERS.

2. MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTIES ALSO HELD MEETINGS NOVEMBER 18. ALLOW LEQUAY'S FACTION OF THE DLP, WHICH HE NOW CALLS THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC LABOUR PARTY (UDLP), REPORTEDLY DREW 2000 PEOPLE TO ITS FIRST CONVENTION. RECENT DEFECTIONS FROM OLD LINE DLP LEADER JAMADAR AND THE SIZE OF THE CONVENTION INDICATE THAT UDLP HAS CAPTURED THE SUPPORT OF THE CORE OF THE FORMER DLP. UDLP CALLED FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS NEXT YEAR AND PROMISED A NEW REFORMED GOVERNMENT TO ATTACK LACK

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OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN ITS OFFICERS.

4. TAPIA ALSO HELD ITS 5TH ANNIVERSARY ASSEMBLY AND APPEARS TO BE CHANGING FROM A STUDY GROUP INTO A POLITICAL PARTY. IT ALSO CALLED FOR AN EARLY ELECTION AND PRESENTED A MANIFESTO.

3. INCREASED TEMPO OF OPPOSITION ORGANIZING ACTIVITY ALSO INCLUDES DEMOCRATIC ACTION CONGRESS (DAC) WHICH SENT A TEAM TO NEW YORK TWO WEEKS AGO. THE TEAM, HEADED BY CHAIRMAN A.N.R. ROBINSON, HOPED TO GENERATE SUPPORT AND FINANCIAL BACKING FROM AMONG CONCERNED TRINIDADIAN IN THE UNITED STATES. DAC CLAIMS 6000 ACTIVE MEMBERS.

4. COMMENT FOLLOWS.
MARSHALL

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